

**REMARKS**

The following remarks are in response to the Office Action mailed on April 26, 2000. Upon entrance of the amendments set out above, claims 1-31 remain pending in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-13, and 15-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). The Examiner rejected claims 3, 7, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Response is hereby made to all of the Examiner's above noted rejections.

As a preliminary matter, claim 6 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

There are four independent claims in the application, namely claims 1, 11, 19, and 26. These claims all require a plurality of pins (or equivalents thereof) disposed on a plate or wall which is mounted to, or part of, the engine. Claims 1, 11, and 19 require the plurality of pins to be disposed such that the stator is aligned with the rotor when each of the pins contact a stator housing surface. Claim 26 likewise requires the generator to be located on the wall by contacting the pins with a stator housing surface.

The Examiner held that Frank has an engine (17), a plate (19) mounted to engine 17 and a generator (18) (including a rotor (52), a stator (51) and a housing (68)) mounted to plate 19. The Examiner further held that Frank has bolts (45) which are disposed on plate 19 to concentrically align the stator and the rotor. Bolts 45, however, are used solely for mounting and not for alignment. Furthermore, bolts 45 do not contact any housing surfaces and no housing surface is used for alignment in Frank.

Frank teaches a completely different structure and method for aligning rotor 52 with stator 51 from that required

by claims 1, 11, 19 and 26. No pins or stator housing surfaces are used in Frank. Instead, an oversized dummy rotor is inserted into stator 51 to achieve the desired alignment (see column 2, line 64 to column 3, line 3). Bolts 45 are merely used to secure engine 17 in place once alignment is achieved. They are not used for alignment as required by claims 1, 11, 19 and 26. Bolts 45, furthermore, do not contact any housing surfaces of housing 68 as required by claims 1, 11, 19 and 26. Housing 68, which is not attached to plate 19 until after alignment is achieved, likewise does not play any part in aligning stator 51 with rotor 52 as required by claims 1, 11, 19 and 26.

The Examiner also held that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify bolts 45 of Frank into a dowel shape as required by claim 7 or to increase the number of pins to at least six pins as required by claims 3 and 14. Since Frank does not teach or suggest the use of pins to achieve alignment, however, it would not have been obvious in view of Frank to modify pins as required by claims 3, 7, and 14.

In summary, Frank does not teach or suggest a structure or method for aligning a stator with a rotor as required by claims 1, 11, 19 and 26. Therefore, Frank cannot anticipate independent claims 1, 11, 19, or 26 or any of the claims that depend therefrom, and all of these claims are allowable.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application

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should be allowed. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned below if it will aid in the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Byrne  
Registration No. 43,522

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BOARDMAN, SUHR, CURRY & FIELD LLP  
1 South Pinckney Street, Fourth Floor  
P.O. Box 927  
Madison, WI 53701-0927  
Phone: 608-257-9521  
Fax: 608-283-1709  
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